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CENTRO DI RICERCA
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

martedì, 18 giugno | ore 11.30

**Campus di Novoli
Edificio D5, II
piano | Stanza
Spreafico**

Via delle Pandette – Firenze

Colonial Care

Interviene:

Riikka Prattes, Monash University,
Australia, Visiting Professor DSPS



Abstract

In this talk, Prattes adds to critiques of discourses and practices of care that are enmeshed with coloniality. It does so via examining the prominent model of helping marginalized people through giving them the opportunity to care for themselves and their own by being recruited into paid (care) work, thus, becoming “useful” participants in society. This usefulness is read as a colonial project of subordinate inclusion into neoliberal racial capitalism. A perverse ideology of care is mobilized to extract surplus value from marginalized workers “integrated” into the lower echelons of social reproduction. Using historic and contemporary examples, the argument is developed in three steps: The first step discusses how care workers are included via subordination. The second step analyzes how an inversion of care receiver and caregiver transforms marginalized care workers into recipients of integration measures, rendering their care work invisible. The third step shows how racial usefulness, the interpellation that racialized workers be/come “useful,” is undergirded by productivism within neoliberal racial capitalism.